

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ADP-00 AF-10 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 RSC-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-03 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19 OMB-01 RSR-01 /176 W

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FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8788

INFO AMCONSUL NASSAU PRIORITY

UNCLAS USUN 2602

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UN; BF

SUBJECT: US STATEMENT TO SC IN SUPPORT OF BAHAMAS ADMISSION  
TO UN

FOLLOWING IS STATEMENT DELIVERED BY AMB. W. TAPLEY BENNETT, JR.,  
DEPUTY REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES IN THE SECURITY  
COUNCIL, ON THE APPLICATION BY THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS  
FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE UNITED NATIONS, JULY 18, 1973:

QUOTE

THE UNITED STATES HAS A LONG HISTORY OF WARM AND CORDIAL RELATIONS WITH ITS CLOSEST OVERSEAS NEIGHBOR, THE BAHAMAS. WE HAVE MAINTAINED OFFICIAL REPRESENTATION IN NASSAU FOR OVER 150 YEARS SINCE 1821, BUT EVEN BEFORE THAT DATE THE PEOPLES OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE BAHAMAS HAD BEGUN TO DEVELOP STRONG CULTURAL AND ECONOMIC TIES WITH EACH OTHER. THESE TIES DERIVED NOT ONLY FROM THE PROXIMITY OF THE BAHAMA ISLANDS TO OUR SHORES BUT ALSO FROM OUR COMMON HERITAGE OF CONCERN FOR HUMAN DIGNITY AND SELF-DETERMINATION.

UNDER THE EXPERIENCED LEADERSHIP OF PRIME MINISTER PINDLING, THE PEOPLE OF THE BAHAMAS HAVE DEMONSTRATED A SINCERE DESIRE TO BE MASTERS OF THEIR OWN NATIONAL DESTINY AND TO ASSUME THE CONSIDERABLE RESPONSIBILITIES OF INDEPENDENCE. THEREFORE,  
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MY GOVERNMENT WELCOMED THE DECISION OF THE UNITED KINGDOM,

AND APPLAUDS ITS READINESS, TO GRANT COMPLETE INDEPENDENCE  
TO THE BAHAMAS ON JULY 10, 1973.

ON JULY 10, THE DATE OF INDEPENDENCE, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE  
COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS ANNOUNCED ITS ADHERENCE TO ALL  
THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITMENTS WHICH THE UNITED KINGDOM HAD PREVIOUS-  
LY UNDERTAKEN ON ITS BEHALF. SIMULTANEOUSLY THE GOVERNMENT  
OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS ANNOUNCED ITS SUPPORT FOR THE  
PRINCIPLES OF THE UNITED NATIONS CHARTER AND APPLIED FOR  
MEMBERSHIP IN THE UNITED NATIONS. MY DELEGATION HAS  
BEEN PLEASED TO SUPPORT THE APPLICATION OF THE COMMONWEALTH  
OF THE BAHAMAS FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE UNITED NATIONS.  
WE CONCURRED WHOLEHEARTEDLY IN THE RECOMMENDATION OF THIS  
COUNCIL'S COMMITTEE ON THE ADMISSION OF NEW MEMBERS AND  
WELCOME THE UNANIMOUS DECISION TAKEN TODAY BY THE COUNCIL  
TO RECOMMEND THE ADMISSION OF THE BAHAMAS.

MY DELEGATION IS CONFIDENT THAT THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE  
BAHAMAS WILL PLAY A VALUABLE AND CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE AS A MEMBER  
OF THE UNITED NATIONS. THE UNITED STATES LOOKS FORWARD TO  
WELCOMING THE BAHAMIAN DELEGATION TO THE 28TH SESSION OF THE  
UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY THIS FALL AND TO WORKING  
CLOSELY WITH IT IN SUBSEQUENT SESSIONS. END QUOTE.  
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